IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No:

09/778,537

Filed:

February 7, 2001

Attorney Docket No: DP-302911

Examiner: LEWIS, BEN

RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Applicant:

NOETZEL, JOHN G.

Group Art Unit: 1745

JAN 2 0 2006

TITLE: SOLID OXIDE AUXILIARY POWER UNIT REFORMATE CONTROL

I hereby certify that this document is being FACSIMILE TRANSMITTED TO The United States Patent and Trademark Office to the Attention of:

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MS: Amendment

Commissioner For Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-15450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ATION DATED OCTOBER 31, 2005

Dear Sir:

This is Applicants' response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2005 rejecting claims 1-8, 10, 11, 13-15, 17-21, 23-28, and 31-42. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-8, 10, 11, 13-15, 17-21, 23-28, and 31-42 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable § 103(a) as unpatentable over Okada et al U.S. Patent 6,266,576 in view of Perry's Chemical Engineers' Handbook. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants' independent claims 1 and 23 each requires a controllable valve disposed in a reformate stream that is controlled in response to desired reformate pressure, measured reformate pressure from a reformate pressure sensor, and the position of the control valve. The Office Action takes the position that the Okada et al reference discloses each of these elements except for the use of valve position. Applicants respectfully disagree.